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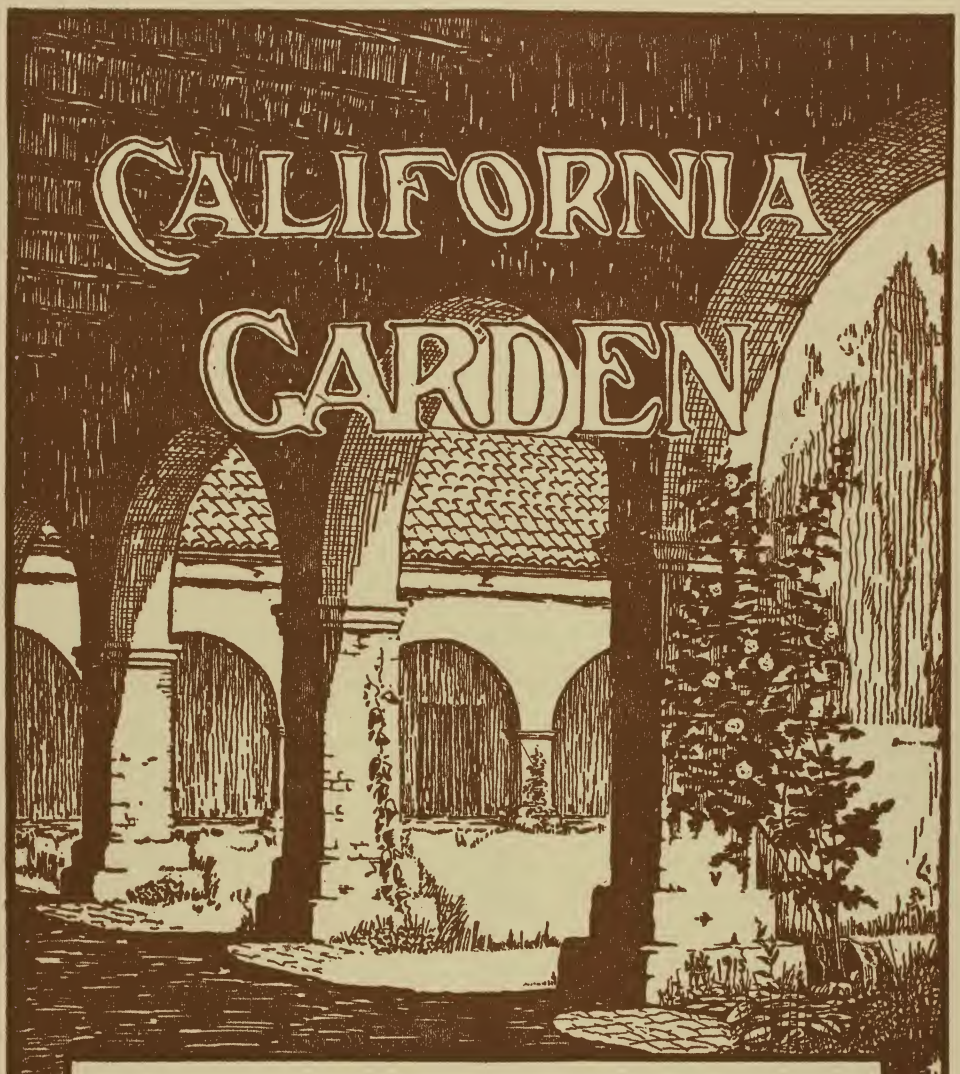

IN THIS NUMBER

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Alice Mary Greer

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C. I. Jerabek

A VISIT TO HUGH EVANS GARDEN
Bertha M. Thomas

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All interested in garden matters and civic beautification are invited to join. Dues $1.50 per year. Magazine and Membership combined $2.00 per year. P. O. Box 323, San Diego.

The California Garden

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SO DIFFERENT—AND YET TWO LOVELY GARDENS

Within the fields of each of the fine arts, a seeker may always find there the expression which suits his particular need or innate personality. At one time he may desire a simple, lilting, light vein of expression. It may be a Carot, a scrap of Mendelssohn's Song Without Words. Again, he may wish to hear from those "grand old masters, whose ancient footsteps echo through the corridors of time," and he calls for his Browning or his Beethoven Symphony. Just so is it in the realm of the garden, for garden lore is a fine art, is it not? All of us who visited the two Point Loma gardens last Sunday must realize this.

If you desire exhilaration, visit the Dunning gardens. If contemplation, social intercourse or ease be your mood, step into the Coffroth gardens, just around the corner and within a good stone's throw from the Dunning home. After all, isn't it lovely that all gardens are not of the same stamp and die?

When the magic door which admits one from the ordinary mundane affairs into the Dunning lathhouse closes behind us, we know just how Alice in Wonderland must have felt when the white rabbit worked his rabbitry and admitted her into the world of gasping and unbelievable Wonderland. At first we do not speak. We simply gaze and drink in the exotic beauty enveloping us. Here, indeed, is youth, vibrant with life, red blood tingling and dancing through the veins, the vigor of pulsing vitality, freshness buoyancy and gladness. There is no thought of the morrow. Live in today, for today is glorious! Today is perfect! Every plant, every leaf, the very trickle of the pool and stream sends out the same message.

Now is it the color reflected from the blue painted glass overhead, the dancing sunlight flecks upon the red and pink hues of the begonias, the healthy condition of the individual specimen, the singing birds housed therein, the gay colored inviting lounges and chairs, the radiant personalities of the owners of our Wonderland or the unusual setting which has cast a spell upon us? No, it is not one of these things alone, which has affected us, for each of these attributes of a garden may be found in almost any situation. Rather is it the beautiful combination of all of these points, assembled into a harmonious masterpiece by those who have a vision and in the love of that vision and the love for a home and green growing things have been able to work out their dreams and to share the realization of those dreams with others.

To see this unique combination of a lathhouse and living room makes one wonder why more have not done the same thing. Mr. Dunning explains that it just grew little by little until the final whole was achieved. We can vouch for the truth of the statement as far as the plants are concerned at any rate, for a step into the neat little glass house shows hundreds of incubator babies being scientifically reared from seed, cuttings and all the ways in which plants materialize from the nothing into the something. Why mention the wonderful rex, tuberous and fibrous begonias, the subtle blue achimene blooms, the velvety gloxinias, the trailing gray campanula isophilla, the very unusual and perfect polypodium knightii, the hanging baskets of a baby trailing fuchsia with tiny leaves and wee soft yellow trumpet shaped blossoms, when all we have to do is to quote Mr. Alfred Robinson, the begonia king, who said, "Well, Dunning, you have me beaten in everything except your racinifolia?" What could be finer than that generous statement from the begonia critic of the country?

I have said nothing about the outside garden of the Dunnings, because the lathhouse is the focal point of all visitors, but there is aplenty to interest us in the extremely well kept outer garden, where never a weed or dead leaf dares appear. Even the Point Loma snails are trained to hold their heads aloft and slide by this garden to hold their revels elsewhere. Aside from the cactus garden, the rose arbor, bird houses, lily pool and beds of annuals, every visitor remarks upon a magnificent specimen of the pink escalonia which reaches almost tree like proportions. There is also a pleasing, closely clipped hedge of the dwarf pomegranate outlining the porch. At times this plant is in-

clined to be sparce and scraggly. Mr. Dunning knows how to conquer its bad habits.

In the Coffroth gardens the exotic youth has grown into a gracious, dignified, well poised individual who knows that life is serene and the world well ordered. Here one may seek many a secluded nook, under a pergola where nestle ferns and begonias, in a lath house with interesting tiled designs, on benches in the half shade, under the trees on the lawns or best of all beside a shady lily pool flanked by fine cedrus and lawns. If you desire you may leisurely roam down the many inviting paths wandering here, there and everywhere, between beds of zinnias, dahlias and marigolds which just a little later will be a blaze of glory. Of course you will stop to admire, as does everyone, the beds of godetia, in three varieties. They are lovely and bloom between seasons when the spring blossoms have waved farewell before the summer blooms have put in their appearance. Mention must be made of the very fine lagunaria patersonii, an Australian tree with pleasing gray green foliage and profuse orchid colored blossoms, which grows in great hedges in the gardens. Some weeks ago the sweet peas must have been a marvelous sight, for now the dead stalks being saved for seed, reach to a height of ten or twelve feet and extend around the outer side of one end of the grounds, forming a hedge.

Aside from the sweeps of lawn, perhaps one of the loveliest things is a formal pool centering a little enclosed garden between two wings of the house and reached from a terrace opening from the indoors. It is Italian in its atmosphere, a place for seclusion, for dreams and for confidences. Never a breath of wind enters, the little fountain plays lazily, the young conifers add grace and dignity, the cushions on the terrace suggest peace and quiet.

In his extensive grounds Mr. Coffroth has succeeded in bringing just a touch of some of the old world gardens. Surrounded on three sides by the busy thoroughfare the gardens produce an atmosphere of peace and seclusion far remote from the maddening throng. Truly, the quotation which Mr. Dunning has hung in his lath house is applicable to the two gardens which it was the good fortune of the Floral Association members and their friends to visit last week:

"A kiss of the sun for gladness,
And the song of the birds for mirth,
But you're nearer God's heart in a garden
Than anywhere else on earth."

—Alice Mary Greer.

AN UNUSUAL GARDEN

By C. I. Jerabek

On Tuesday, May 5th, members of the Floral Association and their friends had the pleasure of looking through one of the unique gardens in San Diego at the home of Mr. Frank Strausser. Few people that were there realized the difficulties that he had to overcome to produce this lovely spot. Solid rock transformed into a garden, with a generous use of dynamite, soil, leaf-mold and an abundance of fertilizer, also plenty of perseverance. Mr. Strausser has never been afraid to try to raise what others said could not be done, no garden of its size in San Diego has a greater variety of rare and unusual plants. Mr. Strausser has labeled nearly every plant in his garden, a thing seldom attempted or maintained in a private garden on such a large scale but of inestimable value to owner and guests at times when a name is wanted or memory fails.

After looking around the front part of the garden containing many plants of interest we strolled to the rear of the house, where we came to a series of pools. In these were several kinds of day blooming water lilies (Nymphaeas); Pistia stratiotes (water lettuce) a soft and velvety leafed aquatic; two vareties of Arrowhead (Sagittaria montevidensis and S. latifolia); Thalia dralbata, a plant with canna-like leaves and graceful spikes of purple flowers; Pontederia cordata which also has very similar leaves and flowers; three kinds of Cyprus, the tall and dwarf umbrella plant and the Egyptian Paper Plant; and close to the water's edge a fine clump of Hedychium (Ginger lily); and two Bambusa fortunei, a dwarf variety of bamboo with green and white foliage. Amongst the rocks were many other interesting plants of a low growing nature.

Glancing up at the house I saw a Solandra guttata (Chalice Vine) climbing along the balcony of the third story, protruding from its verdant foliage were large yellow flowers like golden cups.

Walking a little further we came to a number of formal beds of annuals of various sorts, also several plots of roses. Alternanthera had been used as a border plant, the red and green alternating with yellow and green; the space between the beds was covered with Lippia canescens to serve as walks.

Fruit trees, deciduous and subtropical of many varieties were planted on the hillside. We noticed two avocado trees burdened with fruit; an orange tree called "Lue Gim Gong," the fruit of which when ripe can be left on two years; a Tangello, a cross between a grapefruit and a tangerine; and a Plumcot, another cross of plum and apricot; and still another cross between a pepper and tomato called Peptona; two Papaya trees with some fruit hang-

ing from them which looked good enough to eat.

Underneath some large trees on the west bank were many kinds of ferns, growing on the ground between them Helxine moss.

I have often heard it said that Rhododendrons will not grow in San Diego but I never saw any finer ones than are in this place. Nearby we saw Camelias, Azaleas, and Gardenias.

Even a mere list of what this rare garden contains could not be crowded into an article of this kind but worthy of special mention are Sciadoptys verticilata (Umbrella Pine); many varieties of Junipers; Cedrus Atlantica Glauca; Castanospermum Australis (Morton Bay Chestnut); Tamarindus indica; Actinidia chinensis (Chinese Gooseberry); several kinds of Cassia, C. Fistula (Golden Shower); C. cinnamum (Cinnamum Bark) and C. beariana; Plumeria acutifolia (Frangipani) Tibouchina semidecandra; Pyrus Kawakami, a true evergreen pear; Lizypus sativa (Jujube) grown chiefly for its beautiful foliage though the fruit is used in confectionery; and Davidia involucrata (Dove tree) from China; at a distance flowers resemble flock of doves.

After the owner had shown us all around and told us a story about many plants in his collection we wandered down to the aviary where a comfortable settee had been placed underneath a graceful Podocarpus elongatus. Sitting here watching and listening to the birds and the water splashing in the fountain, we lost ourselves in thought recalling now and then some interesting things we had seen and heard.

GERBERAS

Gerberas are favorites of mine and especially so because they seem to like me, at least they grow and bloom with stalks 20 inches high and I find that not the general report as they have a reputation for being "finicky". But the interesting point about them which I have been watching is the seeding. A few blooms produce no fertile ones but most all will have from 3 to 10 or 12 and these are always around the edge. Being a composite flower there are probably 50 or 60 seeds and the infertile ones will always blow off early leaving the thick fertile one still sticking for about 24 hours. I suppose they still are receiving sustenance from their mother plant—they require quite a pull to loosen them and they were up in 10 days. Now the puzzle in my mind is why the mother was still hanging on to those few good children, while the host of good-for-nothings had been cast to the wind.

—Bertha M. Thomas.

FLORAL ASSOCIATION VISITS THE GARDEN OF MRS. EVANS

One of the yearly events which the members of the Floral Association anticipate with pleasure is the visit to the garden of Mrs. Herbert Evans. This year Mrs. Evans graciously held open garden for two days, the 12th and 13th of April. No matter how many times the grounds are visited, they ever hold an increasing hold amounting almost to an enchanted spell, as if some fairy of all beauty were opening a corner of dreams come true. The perfect planting on the exterior of the wall and the sprays of roses bending above it lure us into the interior, there to stand on first entering as one always does before a work of art, take a deep breath and drink in the inspiration created by a master hand, for such is that of Mrs. Evans. The praises of this garden have been sung by authorities in the local press and elsewhere, so perhaps it is suffice to say here that one may travel long and far but never find a more "Lovesome spot," the artistic garden wherein are assembled the attributes of color harmony, line, proportion and spacing all placed in happy relations. The result is as exquisite as the finest piece of Dresden.—A.M.G.

STRELITZIA REGINAE

Interesting facts concerning the Strelitzia Reginae, flower and seed, quoted from Vol. IV, Marloth's "The Flora of South Africa."

"The pollen is not dry and powdery as in most flowers, but owing to the presence of a viscid balsam, lumpy and sticky, consequently it adheres more readily to the body of the birds.

"Fruit, a three-valved capsule, seeds shining black but possessing a fluffy, bright orange arillus; this contains a considerable amount of fat, thus attracting birds which in eating the arillus scatter the seeds."

One of the experts lately here said that fluffy orange on the seed was very important to hold moisture at the sprouting seed. Now it is quite plain that the use is as Marloth writes.

MORE ABOUT FUCHSIAS

Just as the Magazine goes to Press we received the list of the imported English Fuchsias which are now ready for sale to members, and many of them are of the desired new colors. A few we find listed are old friends already in our collection. One especially noticed is the Wave of Life, of which I had a specimen presented last winter—golden foliage and quite distinctive—but a neighbor's dog also admired it evidently, and as it was only 4 inches high he had easy work to chew it to pieces.

Bertha M. Thomas.

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RANDOM NOTES
By K. O. Sessions

Mr. John Armstrong says the Red Coral Honeysuckle is best for the coast. I have never been able to see one south of San Francisco. Will he please locate them. He neglects to mention Lonicera confusa the finest of all the honeysuckles and every honeysuckle needs heavy pruning to keep it in a good conditioned vine by September. Lonicera Hilderbrandi is the giant queen honeysuckle. Lonicera Belding hausii when planted so it can climb up, as to the top of a garage, or rather high shed, or a plain section of a house, is a very wonderful colorful vine. First flowers are very light cream, turning to very dark yellow. They hang on well. Not until I have seen my own vine in bloom to the top of my 18-foot lath house—a mass of golden yellow and large fine foliage also—did I realize the value of the vine. An east exposure is recommended. There is one at Mr. Troth's on the road to La Jolla facing the west and close to the sea that should be investigated.

The small leafed evergreen elm can be recommended as the finest shade producing tree for yard or lawn. It will spread at least 50 feet with its sweeping branches touching the ground. Its main stem should be kept straight and tied to a good stake until at least 15 feet high.

It is interesting to note the care recommended for the Belladonna pink lily in "Gardening Illustrated," and how easily it grows here. The facts about the depth the bulbs should be planted are well worth our practice. Mr. Lans on Soledad is growing a few thousand Vallota purpurea worthy of extensive culture here.

"Vallota is named after the French botanist Vallot, who wrote a book in which he described the famous garden of Louis XIII.

The South African plant is sometimes still known as the Scarborough Lily, and the story goes that a Dutch vessel carrying these bulbs was wrecked off Scarborough. They were washed ashore and there planted and sold. A similar story is told about the Nerine, which is known as the Guernsey Lily. The bulbs are largely imported from the Channel Isles, and require a sunny position in a light soil at the foot of a south wall. They often reach us about August, and if planted at once, they will sometimes be in flower by September. That beautiful Cape plant, Amaryllis Belladonna, will succeed in a similar position in the open. In the south and southwest of England its near relation, the Vallota, will also flower outside."

After the flowering season is over and the seed set, if as is probable, seed is borne, the plants must be kept almost dry, but the soil must never be allowed to become quite hard or dust-dry. The Vallotas resent disturbance, and they usually flower far more freely when the roots have well filled the soil within the pots. The bulb should have the crown well above the soil and the soil pressed quite firmly about it. They should continue to blossom year after year in a sunny window, provided the room is not heated or lit by gas, that enemy of all plants."

Stephen Vavra gives the following directions for growing Strelitzia seed: "The soil should be good soil, mixed with a little leaf mold and finely pulverized. Peat is quite necessary. The seeds should be in the soil at least an inch deep and the pot with seeds in it should be kept warm (not hot). Warmth helps the germination. When they are about 2 inches high they should be transplanted. You must be very sure the seeds are thoroughly ripe.

From 63 seeds I raised 46 plants and my germinating condiitons were poor. Mr. Armacost had 43 seeds of mine and raised 40 plants with conditions good."

Mr. E. O. Orpet of Santa Barbara writes, "We do not grow old in the pursuit of gardening, horticulture, or whatever it may be called. The proper term I think is the purusit of happiness."

A PLEASURE TRIP
By C. I. Jerabek

Leaving San Diego on the 2:10 train Sunday morning I arrived at Los Angeles at 7:15 A. M. After breakfast I went to Pasadena to see the Cacti Show at the Rust Nurseries, a very attractive place to have it. The cacti were shown in two glass houses with several of the larger displays outside. Although not on as large a scale as last year it showed off to better advantage.

To tell of all the wonderful plants, lack of space and knowledge will not permit; I will however, mention the names of a few that impressed me as odd or unique.

Ferocactus wislizeni monstrosus is a barrel cactus with the ribs broken into irregular tubercles; one of the unnamed stone faced mesembryanthemums (Pleiospilos sp.)—it grows more readily than some of the other varieties; Grenovia gracile, looking like a light green rose bud, closely related to the Aeoniums; Euphorbia tithamaloides variegata has green and white leaves like a variegated rubber tree; Bowiea volubilis has a round greenish bulb from which a slender twining vine grows producing no leaves but the lower part of the vine is provided with drooping undeveloped panicles seemingly taking the place of leaves, very small insignificant greenish white flowers come near the top of the vine; Melocactus

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intortus, commonly called Turk's cap, resembles an Echinocactus with a rainbow cactus grafted in the middle, from this center part small red flowers grow followed by bright red seed pods; Vachea discolor is a bulb producing small branches and miniature leaves.

But what impressed me the most were three Carnegia gigantea, one about seventeen feet high and the other two around twelve feet in height covered with numerous white blossoms. This is the cactus that so commonly grows in the Arizona desert and pleasingly greets everyone traveling through this part of the country.

Having looked at the exhibits to my heart's content I strolled around the nursery grounds which are very extensive and then went to Lincoln Park conservatory in Los Angeles, with its many varieties of colored foliage plants.

Coleus, used extensively in the East for bedding plants but very seldom seen here; Crotons, exceeded by no other genus of decorative plants in the beauty and richness of the coloring; fancy-leaved Caladiums in their soft rich coloring of red, yellow, green, purple and occasionally an almost transparent white; Dracaenas, exceedingly handsome plants with broad green foliage margined or variegated with bronze, pink, rose, creamy-white, rosy-crimson or golden yellow; Calatheas having handsome deep green leaves variegated with silvery-white or salmon-rose; Uriesias, their stiff leaves banded or marbled with green, brown, white, purple and yellow; Hoffmannias are small plants with satiny-green, purple, brown and wine colored foliage prominently veined with white; Acalyphas very highly colored ranging in combinations of green, pink, cream, yellow and red with long tassel-like pink flowers hanging from the leaf axil; Dieffenbackia (Tuftroot) are beautiful plants with large deep green leaves spotted or blotched with white or yellow-green; Anthuriums are in two classes the foliage and flowering, the one with the handsome velvety leaves generally having inconspicuous flowers, while the varieties with the unattractive foliage have very beautiful flowers (commonly called Flamingo flowers).

Inttermixed with these were Gloxinas, handsome plants with large brilliantly colored tubular flowers of velvety texture and beautiful bronzy green foliage; Campanula calycanthema (Canterbury Bells), gorgeous biennials with cup and saucer shaped flowers in delicate shades of blue, white, rose, pink and mauve; hilium longiflorum produce long glistening white trumpet-shaped flowers, borne in the axil of the upper leaves. Although these flower in Bermuda at Easter time they do not bloom until nearly Decoration Day in Southern California unless forced under glass; Rivina humilis (Rouge Plant) with very bright green leaves, slender racemes of white flowers and small bright red berries used in cosmetics; and on the wall a number of orchids with their exquisite blossoms.

In the palm house were several Oreodoxa regia (Royal Palm) considered the most magnificent of all the palms; Caryota urens (Toddy or Wine Palm) are remarkable for their peculiar leaves which are cut up in a way that resemble a fish's tail.

Elaeis guincenis (Oil Palm) is one of the most ornamental palms, the red fruit of this species yields the palm oil of commerce that is used in making candles and soap; Thunix parviflora is a lovely palm with fan-shaped leaves; another interesting fan palm is Pritchardia pacifica (native of Samoa and the Fiji Isles), attaining a height of thirty feet crowned with large spineless leaves; Livistonia rotundifolia is a native of Java, a small leaved species of very slow growth; Chamaedora geonomaeformis is a very handsome dwarf growing palm with simple deeply cut leaves about nine inches in length; Phytelephes macrocarpa (Ivory Nut-Palm) is a native of Venezuela, a low growing variety with spineless pinnate leaves, the common name refers to the white seeds that furnishes the vegetable ivory of commerce; and then there is another plant which is not a true palm but resembles one on account of its palmate leaves, called Carludovica palmata.

Another class is the fern palm, Cycas circinalis, one of the most ornamental of subtropical plants with a heavy trunk and leaves five to eight feet long, of a deep green color, and another interesting plant in this same family is Divon spinulosum with very handsome foliage; it is one of the tallest growing of all the cycads, attaining a height of fifty feet.

In this same place were dozens of other interesting tropical plants, one more noticeable than the others, in fact the only one known to the writer in California. This picturesque tree closely resembles the white Bird of Paradise (Strelitzia nicholsii) and is called Ravenala madagascariensis (Traveler's Tree) deriving its name from the fact of providing a refreshing drink by cutting off the leaf sheaths and catching the clear watery sap. In this same building in a separate wing were many varieties and species of ferns.

On the way back to the city near the Broadway entrance to Elysian Park is a very beautiful tree with large panicles of flesh-colored flowers; stopping to examine it I found it to be a cape chestnut (Calodendrum capensis).

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The California Garden

Editor
Silas B. Osborn

Associate Editors
John Bakkers
Walter S. Merrill

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McKELVEY'S
Elite Printing Co. 851 2nd. St., San Diego

The editor is gratified to be able to report a marked improvement in the condition of our indispensable contributor, Miss K. O. Sessions, who is now slowly recovering from serious illness at her home on Soledad. For the first time in several months the "California Garden" will contain some of her inimitable and timely horticultural comments.

CORRECTION

In mentioning the awards granted for entries at the Spring Flower Show there was an omission in the class of French Bouquets. The first prize was awarded to Miss Alberta Chanter.

LIST OF NEW MEMBERS

Elmer M. Smith, San Francisco.
New Jersey Gardens, New York.
Miss Frazie Curtis, La Jolla.
Mrs. B. S. Baxter, San Diego.
Mrs. B. W. White, Monterey, Calif.
Ole Rossum, San Diego.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

San Diego Floral Association Covering the Period from June 11, 1930, to June 15, 1931

While there has been no event of outstanding importance during the past year, the association has gone along quietly and without effort at ostentation, doing the good work for which it came into existence some 21 years ago.

The high standard of speakers, for which the association has gained a reputation, was maintained throughout the year; and helpful bits of information and advice were given out from each meeting.

During the year, a change of editors of the California Garden took place, Alfred D. Robinson giving way to Mr. Silas Osborn, who, although the task was a hard one in following the splendid work of the former editor, filled in the gap in noble style; and the "Garden" appeared regularly each month.

We now regret to state that Mr. Osborn finds that he can no longer continue as editor; and the directors are put to it to find one who will undertake the work. Surely, in an organization so full of talent, there can be found some one willing to carry on the work in order that the publication of our official organ may not be interrupted.

Hard work, backed by devotion to the task, has brought success to the organization in the past, and the year just closed has been no exception. While ably assisted by willing workers, yet to our worthy president, Mrs. Mary A. Greer, and to the Board of Directors should be given most of the praise for the good work which has been accomplished.

A. S. Hill, Secretary.

REPORT OF GARDEN CONTEST COMMITTEE

The gardens that were entered in 1931 are fewer in number than in 1930 but are fully as representative. It is planned to have but two judgings this year. The first one took place on April 13 and we were most fortunate in having as judges: Mr. John J. Reeves, Beverly Hills, and Mr. Alois Frey, San Fernando. After they had finished their work as judges at the Flower Show they graciously consented to remain over the week end and judge the gardens. The contest seems to have made a strong appeal for more and better garden work and each such garden is bound to reflect a helpful neighborhood influence. We hope to have the next and final judging in late September or early October.

Mrs. John Burnham,
John W. Snyder,
G. H. Middlebrook,
Committee.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF FLORAL ASSOCIATION

Covering Receipts and Disbursements for the Period from June 11, 1930, to June 15, 1931

Balance on Hand June 11, 1930		$ 50.09
Received During the Year:		
From Memberships	$ 699.15	
From Subscriptions to Magazine	326.19	
From Advertising	340.00	
From Sales	25.30	
From Silver Offerings	29.60	
From Shows	968.50	
From Miscellaneous Sources	94.45	2,483.19
Total to be accounted for		$2,533.28

Disbursements

For Monthly Meetings	$ 31.76	
For Publication of "California Garden"	1,410.33	
For Subscriptions to Magazines	14.36	
For Current Expenses—including salaries, stationery, postage, etc.	454.20	
For Expense of Flower Shows	522.86	
Total Disbursements		2,433.51
Balance on Hand, June 15, 1931		$ 99.77

San Diego, California,
June 15, 1931.

Audited; and found correct.
MARTHA MEEK,
Special Auditor.

Mrs. Mary A. Greer, President of the San Diego Floral Association, announces the association has obtained from the San Diego Park Commission the use of a plot of ground with a frontage of 300 feet on the east side of Park Boulevard north from the old Yorick Theatre Building in Balboa Park for the purpose of planting an Aloe and Agave garden in honor of Miss K. O. Sessions.

Mrs. Greer is appointing a committee to work out the ways and means of consummating this project. Planting plans have been submittee and with minor alterations have been tentatively approved by the "Board of Park Commissioners." Since Miss Sessions has long advocated a planting of this nature all concerned with this project are gratified to be able to express their esteem for her in such a practical and tangible way at this time. The Park Commissioners Mr .W. C. Crandall, Mr. Samuel Fox and Mr. Harry Warburton, and the Park Superintendent, Mr. John Morley, are to be commended for their prompt acquiescence to so timely an action.—Ed.

A CACTUS GARDEN

Between Tucson and Phoenix, south of the paved road, there is a vast cactus garden that I can never pass without crossing my fingers against its spell. Often in the midst of other employments I am seized with such a fierce backward motion of my mind toward it as must have beset Thoreau for his Walden when he had left it for the town. So that if I should disappear some day unaccountably from my accustomed places, leaving no trace, you might find me there in some such state as you read of in monkish tales, when one walked in the woods for an hour and found that centuries had passed. Look for me beyond the last spur of Santa Catalina, where there is a one-armed sahuaro having a hawk's nest in the crotch. Beyond that there is a plantation of thistle poppies on the tops of whose dusty green stems have perched whole flocks of white, wind-ruffled doves, always about to take flight, and yet never freed. Then small doves of Opuntia Bigelovii, like lambs feeding with their tails between their legs; here and there a bisnaga, dial pointed above its moving shadow; silvery flocks of cholla, now and then a sahuaro pushing aside the acacia under which its youth survived, or a stiff, purple-flowered ironwood, and droves and droves of cholla leading down to the dry arroyo, from which at intervals arise green cages full of golden palo-verde flowers.

Inside the choyital, where ancient black trap overlaps the sand, there will be islands of needlegrass, preferred by the reddish-stemmed Opuntia which is called from the manner of its branching, "stag-horn," and dense, globose clumps of Opuntia arbuscula. But far down the sandy middle strip, stooping low, you can see the sand thick sown with detached joints, awaiting, with a breathless effect of suspense, the rain that brings the chance to root and grow.

There is an extraordinary feeling of intimacy about the choyital, where practically all the life goes on below the level of the observer's eye. The opuntias are seldom man-high, and the scant grass lends no cover to the intense activity of insect and small rodent life. Only the infrequent sahuaro lifts a birdflight out of reach, and the wide-searching light pours unstinted around its meager shade.—Mary Austin in "The Land of Journey's Ending."

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A VISIT TO HUGH EVAN'S GARDEN

By Bertha M. Thomas

We just returned from a short visit to Los Angeles and its suburbs, and think all should do likewise if they believe the report that cacti and succulents are over their craze. It is true that some enthusiasts have turned to other things, but those are the ones who must have a fling at every new idea, and equally sure are they to have only a short run of each new fever. It is also true that some have divided their love and are specializing on only one of these two families. If the balance swings either way it seems a little in favor of succulents. At Hugh Evans large garden in Santa Monica they strongly favor succulents. And we will be forgiven I am certain, for telling that he uses Peat almost entirely in his planting. Their Cactus Garden (as it will always be called regardless of facts), we know was bare ground two years ago. Now there stands in its center a perfect specimen of a Cereus, 10 feet high which was planted out a tiny thing a few inches high. Harry Clark, the wonderful gardener here, lays the credit to Peat, but along with the aforesaid we must place his intense love of plants, his intuitive knowledge of how to treat them, and his constant study of their wants which primarily of course is first the thought of the natural conditions in their native country. But while you are looking at something which is so striking it leaves one amazed, your eye will see some other treasure a few feet away, perhaps so large, perhaps so distinctive in coloring, perhaps so almost unbelievable in shape of bloom that one never gets a chance to catch their breath. The Hibiscus appealed strongly to me; 90 varieties, and such gorgeous colors and immense size of bloom, many of them his own seedlings.

When going through this garden one gets a touch every few moments of Harry Clark's thought and study. For example, while looking at one grand specimen of a foreign tree he spoke of treating it with 5 different chemicals at blooming season, to induce seeds to ripen properly and fall to the ground where they are allowed to sprout naturally. Another instance was in relation to heat for cactus seedlings during chilly nights. This party was asking his advice as to what kind of heating system to install and his quiet answer, "why any heating plant? In their native country their days are intensely hot and nights are correspondingly cold but the seeds come to life just the same." Always that thought of giving natural conditions. And what makes this place filled with such large healthy specimens of rare things is the fact that they do not attempt to force plants from cold countries to grow and suffer in our heat, but please notice we say "attempt" for in most cases that is all the outcome which is possible when we try to fool Nature. And it is so unnecessary, so abnormally foolish, when we have such a vast wealth of lovely and unheard of treasures at our command (if your check book has enough banks) which are at home in our climate. In this garden one can take a trip through all tropical countries in 2 hours; South America, Australia, Java, Borneo, Africa, one after another, —this tree with an unheard of name, that one with an impossible bloom, next a new surprise; each and all our Tropics are there with you for a few moments. And the majority of them raised from seed because importation of the plants is impossible.

The beauties and the wonders of this place fill me with awe. I scarcely want to speak while looking at them. For days I cannot throw off a feeling of unrest, but gradually the ordinary routine of life brings me back till my feet are again on earth and when my senses fully return to the fact that I cannot possess them all I am deeply grateful that there is such a place where one can see them; that a man like Hugh Evans does possess it and allows the public to visit it; that Harry Clark, the gardener, loves his work and studies each individual specimen to give it its wanted conditions, that one can go there and for a small sum carry home little plants, his favorites of the large specimens.

Incidentally of course, we saw his grand Fuchsias, and brought home some new varieties. The new English importations grew nicely, but since we are a Director of the American Fuchsia Society, perhaps we had better say only, "Again America won the War" and leave you to guess the rest. We still have one hope left, namely, that the English ones which Sidney Mitchell brought to the g r o w i n g grounds of the Fuchsia Society at Berkeley will be prettier colors.

THE GOLDEN SAGE

Phlomis fruticosa, Jerusalem Sage, is a perennial woody herb or shrub of southern Europe. It is recommended for wild plantings but more especially for rock gardens as it is a summer blooming plant that survives the dry season with little water, blooming freely.

When well developed it has wooly wrinkled leaves and long spikes of bright yellow flowers. Blooms in winter in southern California, resisting drought and heavy sea winds.

—F. G. W.

A splendid blooming specimen of above described plant was shown the editor in Miss K. O. Session's garden at Soledad during a recent visit.—Ed.

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SOME LITTLE-USED ANNUALS

By Lester Rowntree,
Carmel, Calif.

Throughout the summer it is well to have a reserve of young plants of annuals, or the seed of the quickly maturing ones, to use in case of emergency. Bare spaces occur in the herbaceous borders, rock plants suddenly succumb leaving conspicuous empty places, the activities of gophers and moles make replacements necessary. For these purposes and for the formal uses of edging and bedding we have a long list of satisfactory and well-known annuals. Those gardeners feeling the need of something a little unusual in the way of fillers may find the following suggestions valuable.

Viscarias have long been used in English gardens and are beginning to be well known in the gardens of America. The Viscaria commonly seen is the foot-high branching annual, often bearing on the same plant white, pinkish-white and pink flowers. V. Tom Thumb Blue Gem is a dwarf of a good lavender-blue shade which does not "break." V. Fire King is a more loosely-growing variety with flowers shading from a dark center of Tyrian red to a lighter rose-red edge. This is a beautiful flower in the right spot but needs care in placing, as it is apt to interfere with one's color scheme. Viscaria is a self sower.

Omphaloides linifolia (Venus' Navelwort) is a most satisfactory though rather short-lived annual. The plant varies in size according to its location but averages about one foot. The racemes of white disc-shaped flowers are good for cutting. O. linifolia self-sows and is useful where white is needed in crowded places, for it will work its way up between other foliage and then throw out its branches of white blooms.

There is a hybridized form of Linanthus androsaceus (a native of California) which makes a most satisfactory low temporary filler and seeds itself to repeat this service every year. It is often listed in English catalogs under the name of Leptosiphon. The French hybrids and the mixtures make a lovely note of color, coming in orange, yellow, scarlet and an agreeable crimson, with all the intervening shadings. Leptosiphon opens only in sunshine, when it makes patches of coloring as vivid as portulaca.

Although Linaria maroccana is already well known, too much cannot be said in its favor as a useful filler where a slender annual is needed. The hybridized forms have many new and pleasant shades with a good percentage of yellow, formerly not common in this annual. Where more yellow is needed, L. tristis, yellow with a purple mouth, can be used in combination. Another annual Linaria which comes in a gratifying mixture is L. aparinoides splendens.

Much is written of the Brachycome iberidifolia, the Swan River Daisy, and yet it is not common in gardens. This dainty blue annual has a long blooming season and proves a suitable filler in most places. There are many improved varieties.

The Virginia Stock of old-fashioned gardens is still one of the best short lived annuals. It is a tough, rough and ready little plant which seeds itself and needs little care. In happy conditions it will attain the proportions of a small shrub and cover itself with small flowers of pink or crimson. The dwarfs and modern hybrids offer a pleasing change.

For those who are willing to pamper an annual, Anagallis promises much. A. Phillipsii will give to the garden a dash of unusual and intense blue like that provided by the California native Phacelia minor v. campanularia and the best of the blue Chinese Delphiniums. Anagallis is a rather scraggly plant and needs sun and plenty of water. When well grown it is of great decorative value. Of the other colored Anagallis offered, the bright tomato red variety will be found the most desirable.

Other annuals which have proved their usefulness to the gardener, but which are not common today, are the Scarlet Flax, Linum grandiflorum rubrum, Collinsia grandiflora carminea, the most showy garden Collinsia, and the annual Chrysanthemum in its new forms.

The blue Nemophila insignis, native of California, is well known, but the mauve form, the white Nemophila, and the purple and white named varieties offer a wide choice to draw from. These are no more difficult than the type and add a note of interest to the garden.

Tithonia speciosa, Malope grandiflora and Didiscus coeruleus are three tall annuals useful for the perennial border. Tithonia, Mexican Sunflower, a native of Mexico, is an excellent subject for a sunny position in front of or among shrubs or tall perennials. It throws out numerous woody stalks, has large leaves and orange-scarlet flowers somewhat resembling zinnias. Malope grandiflora is an annual mallow. It is a strong grower, needing plenty of space and has large blooms of deep lavender-pink. Didiscus coeruleus, the Blue Lace Flower, is a plant having much beauty of form and coloring. It is a native of Australia and was introduced to commerce as long as one hundred years ago. The foliage is graceful and the flowers are of soft shades of lavender-blue, resembling in shape the Caucasian Scabious. It is excellent as a cut flower.

While Thunbergia alata is usually used as a climber and not a rock plant, those who care

to experiment may find it a help in places where the rock plants seem unnecessarily thin. It clambers harmlessly over the empty spots and is generous with its delightful buff yellow, brown-throated tubular flowers.

Wherever the summers are warm and if it can receive plenty of moisture, Torenia will add an unusual touch to the garden. Torenia is generally classed as a greenhouse plant but it can be grown successfully outdoors. T. Fournieri has yellow-throated light blue flowers with velvety blotches of deep blue. T. Bailloni is yellow with brown throat. Torenia is a small plant but when well grown sends out branches and covers a foot of ground.

Two delightful low-growing annuals are Sedum caeruleum and Ionopsidium acaule. The annual Sedum is a choice little thing. Its small succulent leaves are green, brown or red, evidently in this way responding to the conditions in which it finds itself. The whole plant is covered with tiny light blue star-shaped flowers. It self-sows in California. Ionopsidium acaule, commonly known as Violet Cress, is a diminutive Portuguese annual. It never exceeds the height of three inches and is useful for carpeting beneath scraggier dwarf plants, for edgings, for children's gardens, for the crevices of paved walks or steps (should an annual be needed) and especially for covering bare spaces in the rock garden. This miniature plant has tiny light green leaves and numerous pale mauve or lilac flowers. It is a neat grower having a rather squat little shapeliness. Along the Pacific Coast it can be sown in the autumn to provide next season's blossoms. It self-sows but never becomes a nuisance, blooms one month from sowing if conditions are favorable, and prefers the half-shade of surrounding plants.

When the gardener has plenty of attractive and easily grown annuals in mind and at hand, every empty spot in his domain will mean one more opportunity for new beauty and interest.

NEW BEGONIAS

By Eva Kenworthy Gray

I was interested in a letter from an eastern grower of begonias in which he stated that he was discarding most of the old varieties and replacing them with the newer and more desirable types. That is all very well for those who wish only a few choice kinds, but I think some of the old varieties as fine and desirable as any of the new seedlings that are now being grown to a great extent. I rather like to add a new kind as well as keep the old ones. One of the newest ones I have grown this year is Franconis. The seed came to this country from Copenhagen and from one of these plants I obtained seed and also a picture of the original plant to compare and the seedlings seem to look just like the one pictured. I cannot say it is a remarkable plant; the leaves are a light green and stem succulent; growth from 28 to 30 inches tall and bushy. Numerous small clusters of white flowers from the tip ends of the branches. Would make a good seed parent for hybridizing. An oddity of this is the small pink flower that appears at the end of the seed pods. It germinates readily and most of the plants come true. In the seed flat last year was a plant that was so much larger than the others and though it shows the same general characteristics the leaf is twice as large and also the flower clusters. I call it Franconis Gigantea, thus keeping the name to the variety. The flowers of the Gigantea Franconis are of pinkish tint and much larger than on the original plant. Even in the leaf base there is a small cluster of flowers and a red dot appears on the leaf at the base.

A very fine new seedling was grown at the Grant Begonia Gardens and named Dorothy Grant. A rather glorified Thurstonii, the immense leaf is fully 8 inches long, very pointed and wide, shiny green on top and deep brownish red underneath. The flower clusters are borne well above the foliage on long stems and consist of a cluster of closed buds of creamy white with a wood brown color at their base. There is no downy color on them like we find on Cyprea or others which have similar flower clusters. The plant grows about four feet and very spreading with numerous stalks growing from the roots. The new leaves have a bronzy tint that changes to bright green as they age.

One of the loveliest of the new seedling varieties was originated by Mr. A. D. Robinson of Point Loma from seeds of the Richardsonii and which unlike most of the seedlings from that variety retained the silver spots and has a wider and larger leaf with a red dot at their base. The leaf is finely cut like the parent but not as pointed and slender. He calls this Richard Robinson.

I have noticed that these hybrid seedlings do have that red dot at the leaf base like the old Gigantea rosea with which we are most of us familiar and like very much. Some of my seedling Semperflorens have the red dot at the leaf base and those that do show it I find are much superior to those that do not have it.

Then there is Waite's Red Argentia of cane type with large silvery spotted leaves on a dark green field. And did you notice there often appears a red dot in the center of one of the silvery ones on the leaf? Is that red dot on a begonia a "Hall Mark" denoting a fine variety? I wonder! The flowers on this are crimson in drooping panicles. The leaves are of the Coralline Lucerne type, smooth, serrate and dark red underneath.

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The Vedderina originated by the late Chauncy Vedder is a remarkable new variety. Different entirely from the one we call Vedderii. This is a rather tall grower but would not be considered a cane. Leaves are large, covered with suppressed hairs and dark green upper and brownish red underneath. Leaf measures nine inches long by six wide. Flowers are in clusters of closed buds with short stem in among the foliage and are white with white and pink hairs. The open flower is two inches across with two large and two small petals like Viaude.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PROPAGATING AND HYBRIDIZING FUCHSIAS

By H. A. Greene

Cuttings—The fuchsia is one of the easiest shrubs to propagate. In making a cutting, use a sharp knife and cut it directly above a node. The stem removed may be any length and may make more than one cutting. About seven inches is a good length, but smaller ones are good. Just below the node, cut away the stub not leaving ragged edges. Fill your starting box with about five inches of good fertilized loam firmly settled by pressing down with a block. Have the box well drained, and soil damp. Make holes four or five inches apart, two inches deep, and an inch wide. Then fill them with a medium coarse clean sand. In the centers make holes by inserting a small stick about the diameter of your cutting, an inch and a half deep and place your cuttings in them. Now press firmly around each cutting to avoid leaving any air spaces and water the box thoroughly. Keep the box in a warm protected spot but not in the direct sun and keep the soil well dampened. The use of quart cans for starting fuchsias or other shrubs is recommended. Plants will flower in them. In transplanting cut away the can with tin shears and if from boxes, try to save all the roots.

Seed Planting—Gather the ripe fruit and smear it over a paper pad, then place it in the sun until thoroughly dry. After this the seeds may be separated from the dry pods. Prepare a starting box similar to the one for cuttings. The surface should be smooth and level. Then sprinkle the seed and with a block press down the surface. Over the seed, sprinkle clean sand not more than an eighth of an inch deep and then cut a piece of burlap to cover the surface and soak it before laying it over the sand. Next pour water over it and keep it continually damp. When the seed has started remove the burlap. Spray water over the seedlings when required. Transplant the tiny plants when about three inches high.

Hybridizing—This is a simple and fascinating work. Select for the mother flowers only those which have not yet developed pollen. For a father select flowers from a different variety rich in pollen dust. Each blossom contains male and female organs. At the end of the flower stem is an ovule containing embryo seed. From this is extended a tube named the style and the little knob on its end is the stigma. These comprise the female organs. Coming from the base of the petals of the flower are eight stamens at the extremity of which are roundish knobs called anthers which produce the pollen. These are the male organs. Remove these stamens with scissors from the mother flower. Take away from the flower of the selected male a bunch of stamen with their white powder pollen and rub them carefully over the usually sticky stigma of the mother blossom. The ovules thus become fertilized. In order to prevent other pollen from coming in contact with the mother stigma by wind or insect encompass it with a paper bag which may be safely removed in a few days. It is a good plan to tie the bag around the plant and on it write the names of the vareities crossed.

DEVELOPMENT OF STOCK SPONSORED BY THE SOCIETY

The Society is proud to announce the progress made in developing new stock centers for the fuchsia, and grateful for the scientific and faithful work done in this field by the very competent persons who have led the undertaking. Fresh fuchsia stock is now being grown at the following places:

A. University of California, under the direction of H. W. Shepherd, where the collection contributed by Clarke Brothers of Portland, Oregon, is being developed. Here also a collection contributed by Howard & Smith, Montebello, California, is flourishing. These collections are for exhibition purposes only. Here also the unusual collection sent by Mr. Harry A. Greene, from Monterey, has been placed in a garden of its own, where the 50 full-grown specimen plants make a handsome showing.

B. Berkeley Horticultural Nursery, Berkeley, California. Of the 51 choice hybrids imported from England last fall, 48 varieties are growing. From them 1600 cuttings have already been made. The plants raised from this stock have now been released by the United States Government and plants may be obtained from the Berkeley Horticultural Nursery, preference being given to the Society members, especially to commercial members, whose establishments will act as distributing centers in other parts of the country. After September 1, 1931, this preference to members will be withdrawn and the stock offered on the regular market.—Bulletin No. 5, American Fuchsia Society.

PRACTICAL PLANT PATENT PROBLEMS —AND ANSWERS

Remarks of M. Q. Macdonald, A. A. N. Counsel, Before the Annual Meeting of the Eastern Nurserymen's Association, Newark, N. J., Feb. 6, 1930.

As many nurserymen know, Mr. Macdonald had a great deal to do with both the framing and the successful support of the amendment providing for the granting of plant patents. In addition to having a wide knowledge of the principles involved, he is keeping closely in touch with the developments in this new field of opportunity. At Newark he called attention to the credit deserved by one of the members of the Eastern Nurserymen's Association—Lester Lovett—to whom, he said, was largely due the fact that the Law was on the books. He had sold the idea to Senator Townsend who, with Representative Purnell, was responsible for the introduction and fostering of the bill. After thus tearing aside a little of the veil of modesty with which Mr. Lovett tends to surround himself, he made the remarks that follow.—Editors.

The broad outlines of the Townsend-Purnell Plant Patent Law are doubtless known to all of you. The fundamental reasons for the bill seem to have appealed to everyone. It is interesting to recall that when the argument was advanced that a plant breeder who spends perhaps years of his life in developing a new plant, perhaps of inestimable value to mankind, should be entitled to the same protection that has been given for a century to the inventors of safety pins and mechanical toys, the answer was almost invariably given in the same words: "Well, why not!" * * * Why not, indeed!

It is interesting to recall that the Bill was reported out of both the House and Senate Committees, and was passed by the House, and by the Senate, without one dissenting vote, and that only six months elapsed between the introduction of the Bill and its approval by the President. This was an almost unparalleled achievement.

Perhaps I can cover more ground in a limited time by reviewing a few of the questions that have been submitted by those interested in the application of the law.

1—Can a Rose grower buy a patented plant and reproduce enough for his own use, provided he does not sell the plants?

No, not if the patentee reserves to himself the rights given him by the statute. The law gives the patentee the exclusive right to asexually reproduce the plant. He may reserve this right to himself, or he may license the purchaser to reproduce ten, or a hundred, or ten thousand. If it is said that one cannot prevent the owner of a plant from planting a cutting, it may be answered that such an act may not be detected. If detected, and if it is worth while to do so, it may be enjoined. Radio patents were infringed by thousands of boys all over the country when home-made sets were popular, and for practical business reasons, nothing was done about it. On the other hand commercial exploitation of these patents was quickly stopped. The same common sense will be followed by patentees under the new law.

2—Can the owner of a patented Peach tree use or sell the fruit?

Yes. He is not infringing the patentee's exclusive right to reproduce the tree.

3—Can one who discovers a sport obtain a patent?

Provided that it is a distinct and new variety and that the other requirements of the Law are complied with, Congress intended that sports should receive the same protection as hybrids.

4—Can the owner of a patented plant reproduce it from seed?

He is free to plant the seeds, as that is not asexual reproduction. He may or may not reproduce the original. The chances are that he will not. He may produce something better.

5—If he does reproduce something better, can he patent it?

Yes, if he can show that it is a distinct and new variety.

6—Will the fact that plants react differently under different environments prevent the issue of a patent?

There has been much learned discussion on this point. My answer is that members of Congress, even those from the metropolitan district of New York, know that plants change under climatic conditions. They know that citrus fruit is a commercial success in Florida; that it is not in northern Georgia; that the tree may or may not survive in North Carolina, and that it will not survive in Massachusetts. A patented compass will perhaps prove useless over an iron range, and a patented radio will be a failure if used next to a car barn. Both the House and Senate Committees stated that allowances must be made for differences in characteristics which follow from changes in environment.

7—Can Dahlias be patented?

The law specifically excludes patents on tuber-propagated plants. The word "tuber" has

been applied to Dahlias, but other authorities term then "roots." The purpose of Congress in excluding tuber-propagated plants was to prevent the patenting of potatoes which are bought for seed as well as for food. If a Dahlia application comes along, I think that a very good argument could be made for the applicant. Both committee reports specifically include Dahlias.

8—Can new varieties of Strawberries be patented?

Strawberries and a few other plants reproduce themselves, and the only act of man involved is lifting them with a trowel and putting them back in the rows. I think that I could present a much better argument for the alleged infringer than could be offered in defense of such a plant—if it got by the Patent Office.

9—Is it necessary to know how a particular variety was produced, in order to secure a patent? That is to say, is it necessary to know both parents of the plant to be patented?

I think not. In many cases one parent is not known. Pollen may have been carried by bees. The committees of Congress in reporting these bills expressly noted that new plants may be produced by hand pollinization and by growing the parent plants in juxtaposition. Under such circumstances it is impossible to identify both parents. Parentage, in my opinion, is unimportant, except as a possible aid in describing a new variety.

10—Can plants be tested out in different localities without running afoul of the provision which denies a patent on a plant which has been introduced to the public prior to the approval of the act?

Yes, but care—great care should be taken to place them out under a written understanding that they are to be grown only for observation or observation and report; and that they are not to be sold.

11—What about plants that have been sold?

The law provides that a patent may be granted for a distinct and new variety not in public use or on sale for more than two years prior to the application. It also provides that no variety which has been introduced to the public prior to the approval of the act shall be subject to patent.

12—Is it necessary that a patented plant shall be a variety of a new species?

No, it is sufficient if it is a distinct and new variety of either an existing or a new species.

13—What new characteristics may distinguish a new from an old variety?

That is an interesting question. The committees have specifically mentioned the characteristics of "habit, immunity from disease, resistance to cold, drought, heat, wind, or soil conditions; color of flower, leaf, fruit, or stems; flavor, productivity, including everbearing qualities; perfume; form; and ease of asexual reproduction." Perhaps you may think of other things. I can't. It seems to me that, as one man said, Congress put in "everything but the kitchen stove."

It is of course true that some of these characteristics in the present state of our knowledge may be very difficult to describe. Perfume, for example, can rarely be adequately described. You may perfect a new Rose with an indescribably delicate perfume, but if you cannot describe it, you can hardly expect the patent office to issue a patent.

Certain difficulties present themselves also in the matter of describing colors, and shades of color. They are often difficult to reproduce in a patent application. Better nomenclature, and the use of a standard color chart will no doubt obviate many such difficulties.

It should be remembered that the patent office is confronted with an entirely new line of work. It is to be expected that it will express doubts concerning some things that may seem quite clear to the applicant.

Problems and Possibilities

It is to be expected that patents may be more difficult to secure in some fields than in others. Why? Because some fields are more crowded than others, and it is therefore more difficult to distinguish a new variety from an old one. This is not a defect in the Law. It is a condition that has always been faced by mechanical inventors whose inventions or discoveries relate to a crowded art.

It has been asked whether the Plant Patent Law will not result in greatly increased prices to the public. With proper qualifications, my answer is "No." Nothing that was introduced to the public prior to the passage of the act can be patented. If prices for new varieties are too high, the public will not buy them. If all cars sold at Packard prices, there would be more Fords sold. It is a plain business problem.

If a nurseryman has control of a really worth while plant, he need no longer worry with overproduction. He can tell to the last plant how many are produced under license; and he can distribute them in different territories as he sees fit. He is not growing common Privet and anxious over the amount grown by competitors, and the stocks on hand. There will be a gradual development of specialties, and a gradual withdrawal from the highly competitive fields. This will not only help them, but it will aid those who chose to continue the production of the commoner, standard varieties. It will assist the members of the industry to raise themselves above the dead level of price competition.—Florists' Exchange.

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LESS COMMON FERTILIZER ELEMENTS COME INTO USE

Although fertilizers have generally been considered complete with only the principal plant food elements, nitrogen, phosphorus, and potash, the United States Department of Agriculture has found that many of the less common elements heretofore considered non-essential or present in the soil in sufficient quantities may deserve a place in the fertilizer bag.

In large areas in the United States some of the soils are deficient in manganese, sulphur, iron, magnesium, and chlorine. Experiments in the greenhouses have shown beneficial plant-growth responses to applications of copper, boron, iodine, zinc, arsenic, barium, nickel, and other less common elements.

The everglades and east coast regions of Florida, where trucking is the chief form of agriculture, have been found deficient in manganese and have been made highly productive by application of about 50 pounds of manganese sulphate an acre. Within the last two years this new fertilizer has come into general use. It has been credited in some cases, with improving the yield of tomatoes by 175 to 450 crates an acre, the yield of beans by 3¼ tons an acre, the yield of cabbage by 42,107 pounds an acre, and the yield of potatoes by 180 bushels an acre. It has trebled and quadrupled the size of carrots and beets and doubled the size of cauliflower.

In eastern North Carolina manganese deficiency occurs in fields in spots, sometimes because of overliming, and applications of manganese sulphate generally improve the productivity of such spots. The department considers that a small amount of manganese might be desirable in commercial fertilizers as a kind of insurance against crop failures in some localities.

Copper is lacking in the everglade soil south of Lake Okeechobee, Fla., and light applications of copper sulphate are being used to good advantage with commercial fertilizers on sugarcane.

On light sandy soils in some tobacco growing regions an application of 20 to 30 pounds of chlorine per acre, in the form of muriate of potash, improves the yield, quality, and drought resistance of the crop.

A large proportion of the light sandy tobacco soils are deficient in magneisum and at least 10 to 20 pounds per acre of this element must be included in the fertilizer if a normal crop is to be obtained. Magnesium deficiency produces characteristic symptoms in the plant and the condition is popularly known as sand drown.

RAINFORD FLOWER SHOP

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WEATHER DURING JUNE

By Dean Blake, Weather Bureau

June is the transmission month between spring and summer. While the temperature change is gradual, there is a decrease in rainfall, and an amount over a half inch has been recorded only once in the 81 years the record has been kept.

As in May there is apt to be considerable cloudiness during the night and morning, but back from the coast day temperatures are usually considerably higher than in the preceding month. Occasionally an area of high barometer over the Plateau regions causes warm, dry weather in the county at which time temperatures above 90 degrees occur even along the coast.

Stormy conditions are unknown, the little rain taking place in the form of mist, and strong winds never have been recorded. Only 1 day may be expected with measurable rainfall.

Humidity is rather high, averaging 80 per cent. Sunshine is plentiful and ranges from almost 100 per cent in the mountains to 62 per cent over the littoral districts.

ORNITHOGALUM THRYSOIDES AUREUM

The family of Ornithogalums is quite large, close upon 100 species being listed in botanies, though few are in cultivation. The hairy forms, numbering over 40, are mostly native to Europe and Asia, the most common being O. umbellatum (Star of Bethlehem) which, in some sections of the U. S. A. especially on the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts, has become naturalized.

The tender species largely hail from South Africa, though a few are indigenous to Peru, Chili, Arabi aand Egypt. The most familiar form is O. arabicum, which is now extensively grown in California. At one time it was more or less popular as a florists' flower and bids fair to come into vogue again, as its milk-white flowers with black, beadlike centers, are attractive; truly worthy of the name Blackeyed Susan.

A panful was shipped to me by H. G. Bacher, owner of the Swiss Floral Co., Portland, Ore., and was shown co-jointly at the San Francisco exhibition, when it received the gold medal as the rarest plant in the show. It remained on exhibition for five days and was then taken to the photographer with whom it remained for four days. It was then taken to the monthly meeting of the Peninsula Gardeners Association, when it received a certificate of merit, and a week later it was shown at the Hillsborough Garden Club Flower Show on May 5. At the present time, May 13, it is still in good condition and still flowering, with many buds coming up from the center of the umbels.

O. thrysoides aureum is one of the group known in South Africa as Chincherinchees. The most common species is O. lacteum which bears umbels of white flowers not unlike the Paperwhite Narcissus. It is easily raised from seed and bulbs of it are being grown commercially on this Coast. During the winter months, quantities of these flowers are gathered from the wilds around Cape Town in the bud state, and are shipped perfectly dry, to England. Mail shipments are even sent greater distances and not a few boxes reach the United States, as has been recorded in the F. E. and H. T. W. It will be recalled that Dr. David Griffith described the culture of the Chincherinchee with illustrations, during the past Winter in these columns. Another species with the same characteristics is O. thrysoides, with pale yellow flowers. Either cut or on the plant the flowers last for weeks and most remarkable of all is the fact that when cut in the bud state, they will travel 9000 or more miles in cool storage and then open in water without trouble and last for weeks.

O. thrysoides aureum is a rich golden yellow and is perhaps the finest of all the Ornithogalums. Considering its easy culture it is surprising that it has never been offered commercially. Indeed, it is a source of wonderment to me that none of the Chincherinchees have yet been considered as commercial possibilities. The flowers of O. lacteum and O. thrysoides have been reaching England annually for at least 20 years, but so far as I am aware bulbs have never been offered. Indeed, it is only in recent times that seed has been listed.

I believe I am correct in stating that the California efforts are the first in the way of commercial production, either as bulbs or cut flowers. All the flowers shipped from Africa are gathered from the wilds, one or two firms making a practice of shipping the selected blooms. In the wild state, the vigor of the plants and their general characteristics vary considerably, but under cultivation, the finest types of course will alone be grown. The name Chincherinchee, by the way, is derived from the rustling noise the flowers make when the wind blows them together, the pliable 18 inch to 24 inch stems permitting the flower umbels to sway about freely.

Harry A. Bunyard,
"Florists' Exchange."

A mulch is unquestionably a protection to perennials which are growing in a heavy soil. It is much safer, however, to apply a mulch which covers the ground but not the top of the plant. Peatmoss is ideal for this purpose. A half inch to an inch layer will prove adequate.

Good drainage is even more important than a mulch for the successful wintering of perennial flowers. Perennial borders in low, poorly drained ground are sure to suffer during the winter. There is still time to put in a tile drain.

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STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912.

Of California Garden, published monthly at Point Loma, California, April, 1931.
State of California, County of San Diego, ss.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared John Bakkers, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the California Garden, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, San Diego Floral Association, Point Loma, Calif.

Editor, S. B. Osborn, Box 323, San Diego, Cal.
Business Manager, John Bakkers, P. O. Box 323, San Diego, Cal.

2. That the owners are: (Give names and addresses of individual owners, or if a corporation, give its name and the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of stock.) San Diego Floral Association, Point Loma, Cal., Pres. M. A. Greer, 2972 First Street, San Diego, Cal.; Sec. S. A. Hill, 3674 Seventh Street, San Diego, Cal. There is no capital stock.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

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5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the six months preceding the date shown above is. (This information is required from daily publications only.)

JOHN BAKKERS,

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1st day of April, 1931.

LAURA H. FORD,
Notary Public.

CAPRI FLOWERS

Translucency and purity are the sign-manual of Capri in sea, sky, and stone. No more than about forty days in the year are cloudy. It is because of this radiant atmosphere, because the climate is so mild and the air so free from dust, that the flowers of the island have the brilliant coloring characteristic of a mountain flora.

There, where craggy rocks shelter the valleys from the sea breezes, grows in inaccessible situations a gentian-blue shrub, rather inconspicuous, low and woody, with leaves like those of rosemary. Its flowers, about as large as lilac flowers, four-petalled, radiate their vivid blue into the world with all the energy of a vigorous human heart, giving the impression of patches of deep blue uprisen from the sea. Down the arid precipices, whose basic tint is pale green, come cascades, as it were, of vegetation; globular tufts of the dark-green and yellowish milk-wort. Rosemary and barberry grow to an unwonted size. As for myrtle, this shrub is here as tall as a man, or taller; and its white blossoms diffuse a bitter-sweet scent. From the sun-kissed cliffs hangs a giant variety of henbane, adorned with color, each as large as the palm of the hand. Ox-eyed daisies, broom, and purple heather, thrust up to the sun with tropical luxuriance, are almost tree-like in their development, so that they are actually taller than the juniper-trees, which lean away from the prevailing wind, and bow down earthward, to escape being broken by its force. Interspersed with these are purple anemones, blooming tranquilly as if trimly bedded in a German garden, side by side with thyme, shaded by extravagantly large bushes of wild fennel, or by proud and slender pink lilies.

Krupp, of Essen fame, had had a considerable part of the southern coast of Capri transformed into a sort of landscape garden. Today this rather sumptuous pleasure-ground has become a splendid ruin. Where for a decade there has been no touch of a gardener's hand, the natural fertility of the island, aided by sunshine and sea air, has brought forth a crazy-quilt of bushes and creepers, mosses and cactuses, so that time, gentle and patient, has smoothed away the traces of man's interference.—

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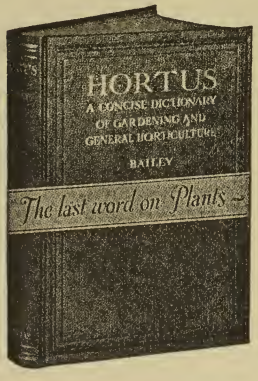

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